

There is very little satisfaction in mere things. Many people have more in things. Peace of mind does not come from material security alone; much of it comes from being unselfish.

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PART ONE
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On Their Way to See a Michigan Victory

THE S and THAT

By G. R. A.

What Is a Boy?

At the recent Religious Retreat of all the branches of Metropolitan Detroit, Y.M.C.A., Dr. Clarence W. Grandford, guest speaker from Washington, D. C., rang the bell with his dissertation on "What is a Boy?" So many requests have come to the Birmingham YMCA office for copies of it that Ed Kirby, local YMCA secretary, has made it available to the Birmingham Eclectic for publication and it is printed here in its entirety.

"After a male baby has grown out of long hair and bangles and has acquired pants, freckles, and so much dirt that relatives do not dare to kiss it between meals it has become a boy."

"A boy is nature's answer to those who believe that angels and such things are perpetual motion."

"A boy can run like a deer, swim like a fish, climb like a squirrel, bark like a mule, bellow like a bull, eat like a pig or act like a monkey and yet be a climatic condition."

"The world is so full of boys that it is impossible to get a firecracker, strike up a band, or play a ball game without collecting a thousand dollars."

"He is a piece of skin stretched over an appetite. A noise, covered with smudges and cuts only when awake."

"He is called tornado, because he comes at the most unexpected times, hits the most unexpected places and leaves everything a wreck."

"Boys are useful, too."

"Boys are not just ornamental, they are useful. If it were not for boys, the newspaper would go undelivered and unread and motion picture houses would go bankrupt. Boys are useful in running errands."

"A boy can easily do the family errands, with the aid of five or six adults. The rest of which a boy does an errand is equalled only by the speed of a turtle on a July day."

"The boy is a natural spectator. He watches the football, fights, ball games, automobiles, boats and airplanes with equal interest and he will wait for the clock. In fact, the person who invents a clock that will stand out against the wind and rain strikes will win the undying gratitude of millions of mothers with boys who are waiting for their home to dinner at supper time."

"Dads faithfully imitate their boys and try to do what they teach them good manners."

"Boys are very durable. A boy, if he is washed and kept in a quiet cool place after each accident, will survive broken bones, hernias, sprains, cuts, fights and nine helpings of pie."

"A boy loves to trade things. He will trade his marbles, books, marbles, and snakes for anything that is priceless or rare. When he grows up, he will trade puppy-love, energy, warts, bashfulness and a cast iron grip for a price that is out of the window and a bald spot, and will immediately begin to trade the boys who were in the good old days."

"The Boy Will Carry On"

"This boy is the person we are dependent upon for the future we have started. He is going to sit at our desks and do all the work that we are doing in this country. We can make policies and devise plans, but whether and how they will be carried out depends on him."

"We will make laws, negotiate treaties and run leagues but he will have the power to amend, repeal or annul them."

"He will occupy the seats in the Senate and the benches in the Courts. Our cities, states, and the nation will prosper or suffer according to what he does in his own way. He will take over our universities, our churches, schools, universities, hospitals, charitable institutions, prisons and corporations."

"All our labor and plans are going to be judged and praised or condemned by him."

"Whether our names and achievements are remembered and honored, depends on his estimation of us and our performance."

"In short, all our work is for him, a boy—growing animal of the present promise of the bones of our nation and every boy born is evidence that God is not yet discouraged with man."

Mr. and Mrs. Murray D. Van Wagoner paused for the photographer as they left Saturday morning for Ann Arbor to see Michigan tighten the Big 10 football race by downing Purdue. (Photo by Richard Shirk)

Van Wagoner Says Germany Reluctant to Use Full Advantages of Democracy

By George Wm. Averil

Once they get used to the idea, the German people will make pretty good democrats, Murray D. "Pat" Van Wagoner believes.

"In speaking of democrats, spelled with a small 'd', he smiled. "They have lived for so many years under such strong central government control that they still hesitate to take full advantage of the freedoms that democracy offers them."

The former Michigan governor and highway commissioner pointed to the search and seizure methods used in Germany.

Residents Don't Object Yet

"The Germans now can object to the police entering their homes without a warrant, yet the homeowner doesn't take advantage of this democratic principle. Homes are still entered without warrants."

However, Van Wagoner said, a new generation of these new (to them) principles and they are getting used to them more and more, is gaining momentum.

Last week Van Wagoner and his wife, Helen, returned to their Birmingham residence at 175 Albany street, where they are the owners of the U. S. zone state of Bavaria.

Their still is no, 100 much money to be had, and there is a considerable gap between wages and prices, he said.

"Of all those countries receiving Marshall Plan aid, I believe Germany has progressed the farthest," he stated.

Van Wagoner finds the German people very industrious and will work to work if given a chance.

"We might look into their habit of controlled production and sales at high prices," he suggested.

"They don't understand, don't approach U. S. production figures. They don't understand the American way of making more money by selling more goods at lower prices."

Wants to Forget Politics

Living conditions in Germany are much better today than they were two years ago. Van Wagoner stated their diet has been upped from 1,300 to 2,000 calories per day; and all goods are available, even though it has been upped from three or four times as long as he formerly did in order to buy it.

Now that he is back home, Van Wagoner said he intends to enter into the life as a consulting engineer. He also has returned to Byrne Doors, Inc., of Ferndale, as vice-president.

"You've got to start teaching it to them in their schools, and then you come up against the problem of what teachers do in their own schools," he said.

Allied Nations Can Agree

The Germans have the framework of a democracy, but they are limited to use it, he said.

"For instance, the legislature wait until the administration has made up its mind."

"The only thing we had to be careful of was to lock our catches each time we left it, otherwise any article it would have been stolen," Van Wagoner said.

"Democracy will work in Germany, if given enough time," he said.

"However, a new generation must be raised and taught these ideals. They are entirely foreign to them, and it will take a long time for the past 100 years."

German youths are interested in democracy, Van Wagoner believes, but they don't have much opportunity to practice it.

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Torch Fund Drive Nears Local Quota; Business Effort Lags

The \$82,250.00 quota which was accepted by the Birmingham-Bloomfield Division of the United Foundation Torch Fund Drive appears to be nearing the goal line, according to Henry J. Whiting, chairman.

"Even though the campaign officially closes today, the final results will not be available for several days," Whiting said.

He praised the workers for their efforts in the campaign and urged that soliciting be completed as early as possible and reported local headquarters by the end of this week.

Business District Lags

Commenting further on the final goal of the drive, Whiting said, "The business district appears to be lagging behind the residential areas in completing the campaign job. This is surprising in view of the fact that the business man is the most harassed by the war."

The business solicitation committee, headed by Frank Couzens, Jr., met yesterday afternoon in a business district which has contributed to date only \$11,000 of the \$16,000 expected in this area. Several business firms have not yet completed their employee solicitation or turned in their company contribution. He urged the solicitors to complete the coverage of the area.

It may be necessary in some cases to ask for an increase in the original contribution to reach the \$16,000 goal, he explained.

Jack Hassberger, a member of the committee, was especially congratulated for the outstanding job he had done.

Mrs. Charles E. Carey and Mrs. Fritz C. Hyde, chairman of the Bloomfield Hills Division, report an anticipated \$10,000 in that area.

Commenting on situations encountered while soliciting, Mrs. Hyde said, "I had only one refusal during the campaign. People have given more generously and willingly than in previous campaigns. Everyone seems to like the idea of our community drive."

"I have been very much impressed with the enthusiasm of our workers and the splendid job they have done," she continued.

"The success of our Torch Drive had succeeded locally, Wm. H. Breach, division co-chairman, said. "The success of our campaign was assured the day it began. The whole-hearted desire of our community to contribute generously in this campaign is indicative of the acceptance of the Torch Drive by all classes, and also of the great community spirit in this area."

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City Formally Approves New US-10 Signals

State Places Cost at \$32,425; B'ham to Pay 25 Per Cent

City commissioners Monday evening hardly gave Samuel J. Levine, district highway engineer, the state, time to explain the state's final proposal for the installation of the new US-10 traffic signal system before they moved to accept the proposition.

City officials for several months have been pressing the state for the new installation, particularly the proposed signal at Woodward and 14 Mile, so they eagerly accepted the final plan.

Estimated cost of the three new signals at 14 Mile, Chapin and Hazel, together with the modernization of those at Lincoln, Maple and Oakland, will cost an estimated \$32,425. The city will pay 25 per cent of this cost, or slightly more than \$8,000.

Levine said a new inland crossover would have to be cut at the intersection, and that Birmingham would have to pay its cost, which is \$1,200. Commissioners approved this expense as a responsible assignment, Machus explained.

He was named to the reorganized plan commission in September, 1948, for a three-year term.

Plans call for a new ninth through twelfth grade \$2,714,200 senior high school on the Lincoln-Cranbrook site, a new \$235,700 elementary school on the site of the Terry school property, and a \$76,000 two-room addition to both Franklin and Walnut Lake elementary schools.

Climax 2-Month Campaign

The bond program will be spread over a 17-year period, and require a 0.5-mill debt levy for the next five years, and 3.1 mills in the final year.

Monday's school vote, although light compared to the number of eligible voters, did set a new school district record. It topped the entire former school registration lists, which usually carried approximately 3,000 names.

Eligible for this election for the first time were between 10,000 and 12,000 residents of the school district who had been registered only for municipal elections. Unusually high turnout, however, voters were certified to the school board and made eligible for this election.

The successful special school election climaxed an intensive two-month campaign in which school board members explained before numerous groups to explain in detail the present overcrowded school conditions, and why this huge building expansion program was necessary.

After hearing the final results, Seaholm said, "We on the school board are very happy by the outcome of the election from the board's standpoint. It is heartening that the public takes such an interest in their schools and supports the board the way they do."

"Great Step Forward"

"What was voted Monday marks a great step forward in the educational opportunities for the children in this school district," said Ireland.

"I am deeply grateful for the support given to the building program by the school electors on Monday, November 7th. It was most heartening to see the members of the board of education to intelligently and honestly inform the electors of the needs for additional facilities and a proposed building to meet these needs. They felt that a properly informed public would respond and adequately support the program. Such was the case."

Praises Eccentric's Support

Members of the Board and the administrative staff of the schools are deeply appreciative of the valuable contributions received from the newspapers, Ireland said.

"The splendid editorial which appeared on the first page of The Eclectic on November 3rd was most helpful and encouraging. It supported the policy of the League to maintain an informed electorate."

"The Chamber of Commerce approved the display of sample ballots in its business windows of the city and thus cooperated in acquainting electors with the process."

(See ELECTION, Page 2)

City to Await Further Tests Before Adding Fluorine to Water

Addition of fluorine to Birmingham water will await further, more conclusive tests as to its effectiveness in preventing tooth decay, the city commissioner said Monday night, after it had read a report from Dr. W. Lloyd Kemp, city health officer.

The report's statement concluded: "It is my judgment and recommendation that, until proof is obtained and we have clear evidence of significant benefit therefrom, we should not undertake treatment of the city water supply by the addition of fluorine."

City Manager Donald C. Egbert said he will report to the city council on the results of the tests.

They also are going to benefit by it," Egbert said.

Royal Oak to Benefit

All the new signals to be played at the present 45 mph limit, suspended from overhead cables, similar to the way they are through Royal Oak.

"The steel strike situation will probably delay complete installation of the new system until spring," Levine said.

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